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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Thomas Hagan et al.

Serial No. 09/747,331

Group Art Unit 2151

Filed December 21, 2000

Examiner

For PRIVACY AND SECURITY METHOD AND
SYSTEM FOR A WORLD-WIDE-WEB SITE

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims 80 and 81.

- 1 80. A method for accessing personal information, associated with a
- 2 plurality of users and stored in a computer system, in a manner that
- 3 protects the privacy of users, wherein each user has a personal identifier
- 4 and a plurality of anonymous identifiers, comprising the steps of:
- 5 prompting a user for the user's personal identifier;
- 6 determining a first anonymous identifier from information derived
- 7 from the user's personal identifier;
- 8 accessing data associated with the user stored in a first database
- 9 using the first anonymous identifier;